

**HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
FULL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
November 20, 2002, 4:30 p.m. Council Chambers**

PRESENT

Chrystal Pushor
Madhu Vedak
Marie Schroeder
Gil Palmer
Joan Chelton
Dick Underdahl-Peirce
Pat Bryant
Jay Myers

ABSENT

Dave Clingan
Cindy Felsten
Barbara Stevens

Commissioner Palmer brought the meeting to order.

STAFF PRESENT: Director Arlette Tinsley, Deputy Director Lorraine Smith, Secretary Cindy Winterrowd

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Commissioner Underdahl-Peirce moved to accept the minutes as written for October. Commissioner Schroeder seconded. Minutes for October were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Commissioner Underdahl-Peirce presented the treasurer's report.

DIVERSITY GRANT PROPOSAL:

After a lengthy discussion, Commissioners concurred that the grant project was more than Commissioners could undertake at this time. Director Tinsley stated that the Commission could be a partner on a project.

Director Tinsley also noted that according to the goals and objectives, she knew that Commissioners have chosen the enforcement of our ordinance as being the priority for staff. As she wanted Commissioners to know of other projects that staff is working on as it relates to prevention of discrimination, Director Tinsley reported that she is supervising an intern who is working on an employment brochure "Employing Latinos". A price quote has been obtained from a translator to translate the brochure into Spanish. Director Tinsley has spoken informally with the director of a local foundation that has a small discretionary fund for projects such as the brochure, including the printing costs. This project will come to fruition sometime in 2003. Also, the Mayor has asked Director Tinsley to work on a brochure that would be available to businesses through the Planning Department. The brochure would encourage local businesses to voluntarily have their plans reviewed for new construction in regard to ADA compliance. The idea evolved from phone calls to the Mayor's office and CHRC about a non-compliant ramp built in Columbus. It is yet to be decided who would review the plans and what the fee would be.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES:

The Commission amended the distributed 2003 Goals & Objectives to include the following suggestions:

- 1) Latino brochure be inserted
- 2) Accessibility
- 3) Participation on the Audit & Review committee by Chair or Director
- 4) CHRC Representative on the Transportation Transit Committee
- 5) Under Networking add: CHRC act as resource for the Heritage Fund regarding Diversity Grant recipient

Commissioner Myers stated that he is supposed to be serving on the Transit Committee but he does not know whom to contact. Commissioner Chelton stated that the contact would be Sue Chappel at ColumBus. The meetings are quarterly.

Chairperson Palmer asked that the Commission request a report from Paulette Roberts who serves on the School Complaint Process reviewing.

Commissioner Chelton moved that the Commission approve the 2003 Goals & Objectives with the suggested amendments. Commissioner Vedak seconded. Motion approved.

Director Tinsley stated she needed to contact Commissioner Clingan regarding the website and updating it.

2003 ANNUAL DINNER PLANNING:

Commissioners selected April 10th as the first choice, with the 14th as second choice for the Annual Dinner.

Director Tinsley also stated that she thought Rich Stenner of the Chamber should be notified of our speaker and the annual dinner date when it is definitely set in case he might want to utilize the speaker in some other capacity while he is here in town.

The suggestion was made that pictures of the essay winners should be submitted to The Republic when the winners' essays are given to The Republic. This will be discussed at a future meeting.

OPEN FORUM:

Commissioner Vedak reported that the selection committee for the new BCSC superintendent she was serving on has finished their process. The candidate's interest or background in the area of diversity was included in committee's list of recommendations/criteria in selecting the new superintendent. Director Tinsley stated that she had attended a roundtable discussion as the committee was compiling criteria for the selection of the new superintendent. Commissioner Vedak stated that she was pleased with the process.

Commissioner Myers made the motion to require a commitment of at least eight Commissioners to attend the December 18th meeting-- the meeting should be cancelled if eight commissioners cannot commit to that date. Commissioner Chelton seconded. Motion approved.

UPDATE FROM THE GAY/STRAIGHT ALLIANCE:

Commissioner Felsten not present.

UPDATE FROM ArtColumbus:

Commissioner Clingan not present.

LEGAL UPDATES:

An article was distributed to Commissioners on accessibility.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.